



Marshland Rural District Council

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1970

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J. McD. HANLEY

L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H.

AND THE

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

A. L. WESLEY

F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

District Council Offices
Alexandra Road,
Wisbech.

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MARSHLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Chairman (Councillor S. Booley), the Vice Chairman (Councillor C.L. Burman) and the full Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J. McD. Hanley, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P., & S. D.P.H.

Local Health Office,
Area No. 4,
15, Nelson Street,
KING'S LYNN,
Norfolk.

Telephone - King's Lynn 3643

Also holds appointments of -

County Departmental Medical Officer
School Medical Officer,
Medical Officer of Health, Downham Market Urban District Council
Medical Officer of Health, Downham Rural District Council
Medical Officer of Health, King's Lynn Borough Council
Medical Officer of Health, Freebridge Lynn Rural District Council

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

A. L. Wesley, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND ASSISTANT SURVEYOR

M.W. Whitehead, M.A.P.H.I.

CLERK

Miss L.M. Griffiths

MARSHLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Council I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1970.

Vital Statistics

These show that the population is virtually static.

The infant mortality rates are satisfactory and it is a pleasure again to record no maternal mortality.

Vaccination and Immunisation

The co-operation of parents with our staff to procure the immunisation of our school children is good and the numbers so protected are satisfactory.

The results of tests for sensitivity to tuberculous infection show that there is very little infection at all, and this merely endorses our results for the past five years or so.

Measles and rubella vaccination are now part of our normal programme. Girls in their thirteenth year receive rubella vaccination. This single injection seems to give life-long immunity to rubella, and protects against any possibility of congenital defects from rubella infection in the babies of mothers so protected.

Health Education

As in previous years we are continuing our efforts to inform the public about all aspects of healthy living and the avoidance of disease and its effects.

The schools and child health clinics are our main avenues of instruction and information as formerly.

Obesity in Children

This problem of malnutrition from excess feeding is difficult to tackle because eating habits are so long established in a family that change requires a strong and continued effort. To many parents a fat child is a credit to parental care and sentiment and they refuse to see anything unhealthy in this condition.

As yet we can only hope for aid from the most intelligent parents who are aware of the present climate of opinion in health matters, but it is unlikely that we shall have more success until more parents realise the significance of early obesity.

J. McD. Hanley,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	56,562
Population in 1931	15,350
Population in 1951 (Census).	16,567
Population in 1970 estimated mid-year home population .	17,700
Number of separate dwellings occupied 1970	6,171
Rateable value 1970	£405,612
Product of penny rate 1970	£1,596

LIVE BIRTHS 250

Rate per 1,000 population	14.4
Ditto for Administrative County	16.1
Ditto for England and Wales	16.0
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	5

DEATHS (All causes) 197

Rate per 1,000 population	12.4
Ditto for Administrative County	10.4
Ditto for England and Wales	11.7

STILL BIRTHS 4

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	16
Ditto for Administrative County	13
Ditto for England and Wales	13

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS 254

INFANT DEATHS (Deaths under one year) 7

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total Live Births . . .	28
Ditto for Administrative County	15
Ditto for England and Wales	18
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Births	25
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births (one illegitimate death)	77

(EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE)

(Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 Live Births)	12
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NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

(Deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total Live Births)	12
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PERI-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

(Still Births and Deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total Live and Still Births)	28
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MATERNAL MORTALITY (Including Abortion)

Number of Deaths	NIL
Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	NIL



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SECTION B

1. County Medical Services

a. District Nurses

This year's report does not include names of Nurses showing Parishes and Villages served. There are quite obviously changes throughout the year and current information will be readily supplied by the Local Health Sub-Office. (Telephone: Downham Market 3241 & 2)

b. Health Visitors

This service is at present undergoing changes with Health Visitors on attachment to General Practitioners. Until the whole structure has become stabilized it is obviously impracticable to give detailed information. Again this will be supplied on request at the Local Health Sub-Office.

c. Ambulance and Hospital Car Services

All ambulances are now under overall supervision by the Ambulance Control Centre, County Hall, Norwich.

The area is covered by the Ambulance Sub-Control Centre, Wellesley Street, King's Lynn. Telephone King's Lynn 4686 and Emergency King's Lynn 4298/9.

Infectious Diseases cases are conveyed by King's Lynn or Norwich Infectious Disease Ambulances.

The Hospital Car Service is administered from the Ambulance Sub-Control Centre, Wellesley Street, King's Lynn (Telephone King's Lynn 3503 and 3910).

d. Child Health Clinics

(i)	Walpole St. Peter	2nd Tuesdays	2 - 4 p.m.
(ii)	West Walton	2nd Wednesdays	2 - 4 p.m.
(iii)	Terrington St. Clement	3rd Tuesdays	2 - 4 p.m.
(iv)	Clenchwarton	Last Mondays	2 - 4 p.m.
(v)	Emneth	Last Tuesdays	2 - 4 p.m.
(vi)	Tilney St. Lawrence	Last Thursdays	2 - 4 p.m.

A Medical Officer is in attendance at the above Sessions.

In addition a Child Health Clinic is held monthly at Outwell.

e. Home Help Service

Applications for Home Help assistance should be made to the Area Social Services Offices, The Granaries, Nelson Street, King's Lynn. This service is expanding steadily.

f. Vaccination and Immunisation

Shown below are figures for immunisations carried out by general practitioners and medical staff in my Local Health Area during 1970. This area also embraces Downham Urban and Downham Rural District.

Smallpox Vaccination

Primary Vaccination		Total	Revaccination		Total
Under 5	5 - 15	299	Under 5	5 - 15	42
285	14		10	32	

Tetanus

Primary Courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15	1,095	Under 8	8 - 15	1,141
1,060	35		731	410	

Whooping Cough

Primary Courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15	901	Under 8	8 - 15	171
901	Nil		171	Nil	

Diphtheria

Primary Courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15		Under 8	8 - 15	
1,048	17	1,065	709	126	835

Poliomyelitis

Primary Courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15		Under 8	8 - 15	
939	20	959	669	320	989

B.C.G. Vaccination

Number given the preliminary skin test	Number Vaccinated	Number referred for Chest X-ray
433	397	-

Measles Vaccination

Rubella Vaccination

Under 8	8 - 15	Total	Females 13 - 14
421	27	448	218

2. General Medical Services

Norfolk Executive Council, Horse Fair House,
17, St. Faith's Lane, Norwich.

Clerk - F.H. Adams, Esq.

3. Venereal Disease Clinic

West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital.

Males

Tuesdays - 5.30 p.m. - 7.00 p.m.
Fridays - 4.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Females and Children

Tuesdays - 3.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.
Fridays - 3.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

4. Disinfection and Disinfestation

Treatment of premises and articles is carried out by the Senior Public Health Inspector's Staff.

5. Laboratory Services

(a) Public Health Laboratory, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich.
Under the direction of Dr. I.M. Dowsett.

(b) Public Analyst,
Dr. Eric Wood, Phd., A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C.

(c) Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.

STATISTICAL TABLES, 1970

Table No. 1

CAUSES OF DEATH		M	F	Total
B4	Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	2	-	2
B19(2)	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	-	1	1
B19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.. . . .	2	1	3
B19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	3	3	6
B19(6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus. . . .	8	2	10
B19(7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	4	4
B19(8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1	1
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	4	9	13
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	-	1	1
B23	Anaemias	-	1	1
B46(5)	Other Diseases of Nervous System	2	-	2
B27	Hypertensive Disease	2	1	3
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	34	20	54
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease.	10	8	18
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	8	6	14
B46(6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System . .	3	5	8
B32	Pneumonia	13	3	16
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	10	2	12
B46(7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System . .	-	1	1
B34	Peptic Ulcer	1	1	2
B46(8)	Other Diseases of Digestive System . . .	-	1	1
B38	Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1
B39	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
B46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System . .	-	1	1
B42	Congenital Anomalies	-	2	2
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Etc.. .	1	-	1
B44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality . . .	1	-	1
B45	Symptoms of Ill Defined Conditions . . .	2	-	2
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	2	6
BE48	All Other Accidents	4	3	7
BE49	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries . . .	2	-	2
Total all Causes		117	80	197

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1970

	<u>Notifications</u>		
	M	F	Total
Measles (excluding rubella)	37	36	73
Dysentery	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	4	6	10
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Acute Meningitis	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis - Paralytic	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis - Non-Paralytic	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-
Yellow Fever	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis - Infective	-	-	-
Post-Infective	-	-	-
Leptospirosis	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	1
Tetanus	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-
Total of all cases	<u>42</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>84</u>

Table No. 3

NEW CASES AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

1970

New Cases				Deaths			
Age in Years	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	TOTAL
	Male	Female		Male	Female	Male	Female
-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-55	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
-65	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
65 & Over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	-	-	-	2

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report for the year 1970.

The cesspool emptying service was again fully stretched to meet the increasing demand and to cope with the extra mileage caused by concentrating disposal of cesspool contents at the Borough Sewage Farm, Walpole Marsh.

Satisfactory progress continued to be made on the Clenchwarton and Terrington St. Clement Sewerage Scheme and work was continued on the new outfall works at King's Lynn which will receive the flow from this scheme.

Phase 1 of the Regional Sewerage Scheme providing for the sewerage of the Parishes of Tilney St. Lawrence, Terrington St. John, Walpole Highway, West Walton, Walsoken and Emneth, received Ministry approval but no further progress was made due to the Borough Council being refused planning permission for the new outfall works at River Road, West Walton into which this Sewerage system will drain.

The Department had no staff changes during the year. My thanks are due to Miss Griffiths and Mr. Whitehead for their loyal service.

A. H. Vesley

Senior Public Health Inspector
and Surveyor.

WATER SUPPLY

This service is provided by the Wisbech and District Water Board.

The following information has kindly been supplied by Mr. J.S. Collins, Chemist and Bacteriologist, Wisbech and District Water Board:-

Frequent bacteriological examinations have been undertaken during 1970 on samples from the Board's Marham Works, Beechamwell Pumping Station and Margaretta Bridge Pumping Station and the distribution system in this area. The results have been of a very high standard.

All new mains were sterilised, samples taken and bacteriological examinations made before the mains were put into service. No connections were permitted until the water in the mains was of the highest standard of purity.

The fluoride content of a sample of water from the Water Board Offices, Oldfield Lane, Wisbech (mixture of water from Marham and Beechamwell) taken on the 10th November, 1970 was NIL.

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATIONS AND ANALYSES

<u>Samples Taken</u>	<u>Bacteriological Examinations</u>			<u>Chemical</u>
	<u>No. of</u> <u>Tests</u> <u>Taken</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Tests</u> <u>Negative</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Tests</u> <u>Positive</u>	<u>Analyses</u>
Board's Works Raw Water	195	188	7	
Board's Works Treated Waters	278	278	-	
Margaretta Bridge Pumping Station	140	140	-	
Consumers' Taps	186	186	-	
Totals	799	792	7	110
Total of all examinations and analyses <u>909</u>				

Out of the total of Board's treated water samples, samples taken at Margaretta Bridge Pumping Station and samples taken from consumers' taps, 100% were negative on examination for organisms of the coliform group. This represents a continued very high standard of bacterial purity.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Cesspools, privy vaults and septic tanks, with sewage disposal plants on the larger Council Housing Sites, are the main methods of disposal.

The cesspool emptying service was operated by four vehicles, three 1,500 and one 1,100 gallon capacity which were fully employed in coping with the demand from both Council and private properties. Regular de-sludging of the Council's sewage plants serving Council Housing Sites was also carried out.

During the year, disposal was again restricted to the Borough Sewage Farm at Walpole Marsh with only one other outlet and this meant that longer hauls had to be made especially from the South of the District. However, good weather conditions helped and a reasonable service was maintained.

The following work was carried out during the year:-

<u>Cesspools</u>	<u>Privy Vaults</u>	<u>Housing Sewage Plants</u>
3,966	67	540 Loads

It is interesting to note the decrease in the emptying of privy vaults, which shows steady progress in conversion of vaults to water closets.

Work continued on the Clenchwarton and Terrington St. Clement Sewerage Scheme and reasonable progress was made.

Full liaison was continued with the Council's Resident Engineer regarding provision of laterals, dealing with minor complaints from the public, etc.

RIVER POLLUTION PREVENTION ACTS.

The district continues to be controlled by the two main Internal Drainage Boards of the Marshland Fen and West of Ouse together with the Middle Level Commissioners with outfalls controlled by the River Boards of the Nene and Ouse.

FRUIT PICKERS' QUARTERS SEASONAL WORKERS - CARAVANS

The problem of housing and siting caravans for seasonal workers still exists. Periodical visits to sites were continued and except for a few isolated cases a reasonable state of cleanliness and order was maintained. During the year, four sites catering for students were in use.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

During August a survey of the Anglers' Holiday Camps at Outwell and Upwell was made and a report made to the Norfolk County Council.

There are eighteen licensed individual caravans in the district, but no residential site in excess of one now exists.

INFESTATION BY PESTS

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| (a) Bed Bugs | No reports of infestation were received. |
| (b) Fleas | No cases were reported or found. |
| (c) Flies | No major problems arose. The joint refuse tip was treated by the Department and individual cases were dealt with by modern insecticides. |
| (d) Cockroaches | No cases of infestation were reported. |

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACTS

A rodent operator is not employed by the Council. There were no heavy infestations reported. The Department maintained a constant watch over the refuse tip and baiting continued regularly. Advice was given to various persons reporting infestations and in some cases help was given by the Department in controlling infestation on premises.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Council continued a weekly kerbside collection in the district with free collection of bulky refuse on request, and full use of the service was made by householders.

Use of the former Wisbech canal was continued and by December a length of approximately 10,025 feet had been filled. This tip is receiving the refuse from the Borough of Wisbech and Marshland and Wisbech Rural District Councils. Measures were taken against fly and rodent infestation and injurious weeds were cut down on the filled section. Trade refuse was accepted under the control of the Surveyors.

During the year, arrangements were continued for the short-term letting of approximately eleven acres of the filled portion of the former Wisbech canal to the adjoining owners. The major part of this was cultivated and produced crops thus relieving the Joint Refuse Committee of dealing with injurious weeds, etc.

WORK STUDY

During the year it was agreed that the Council would use the services of the Norfolk County Council Work Study Department to prepare schemes for both the Refuse Collection and Cesspool Emptying Staffs; these to take effect during 1971.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

Regular visits were made to all types of food premises during the year.

No. of Premises to which Food Hygiene Regs. 1960 apply.	Number of Premises fitted with Wash-Hand Basins	No. of Premises to comply with Reg. 19. F.H. Regs. 1960
105	105	101
No. of Premises complying with Regulation, 19.	No. of Premises Registered to sell Ice Cream	
101	49	

There are no ice-cream manufacturers in the district.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES - Meat Inspection

No slaughterhouses were in operation during the year and no progress was made on the premises under construction at Walpole St. Peter.

POULTRY INSPECTION

Two poultry processing premises have been in use. Both have a small throughput, in one case, poultry and the other ducklings, and inspections were made.

FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED

There are now two large wholesale food storage warehouses and a fruit and vegetable packing factory operating in the District. These are receiving imported containerised goods and which has resulted in some large condemnations listed overleaf.

Onions	-	660 lbs
Cabbages	-	8,820 lbs
Celery	-	3,570 lbs
Radishes	-	20,628 lbs
Bacon	-	45 lbs
Beef	-	68 lbs
Apples	-	20,525 lbs

MILK AND DAIRIES

Milk samples were taken by the staff of the County Council.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There is one licensed knacker's yard in the area at Terrington St. John and conditions continued satisfactorily.

HOUSING

Some small progress was made on the Slum Clearance programme and appreciation should be recorded of the Council's help in this respect. By arrangement with the Housing Officer, applicants rehoused from properties were notified to my department. Inspection of these houses was made and appropriate action taken either by closing or for repairs to be carried out. Development by Private Enterprise and Council went ahead and I give below the number of new dwellings completed.

Bungalows completed by the Council - 25 and no houses
Houses and Bungalows completed by Private Enterprise - 58

494 plans were submitted to the department during the year for consideration under the Building Regulations, 1965, and the Planning Acts.

ACTION BY THE COUNCIL UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS DURING 1970

Parish	Closing Orders made	Under/ takings accepted	Demolition Orders made	Demolition by Formal/ Informal Action	C. Orders & D. Orders deter- mined
Clenchwarton	-	-	-	6	-
Emneth	-	-	4	-	-
Marshland St. James	-	-	-	-	1
Outwell	2	-	-	4	2
Terrington St. Clement	-	-	-	9	1

Terrington	-	-	-	-	-
St. John	-	-	-	-	-
Tilney All	-	-	1	-	1
Saints	-	-	-	-	-
Tilney St.	-	-	-	-	-
Lawrence	-	-	-	-	-
Upwell	-	-	-	6	2
Walpole St.	-	-	1	15	-
Andrew	-	-	-	-	-
Walpole St.	-	-	-	-	1
Peter	-	-	-	-	-
Walsoken	-	-	-	-	-
West Walton	-	-	1	-	-
TOTALS	2	-	7	40	8

HOUSING REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

It was found necessary to serve informal notices on owners of properties to carry out certain essential repairs and all these were carried out without the service of statutory notices.

Standard Grants

Applications approved - 50

Improvement Grants

Applications approved - 6

Improvement Grants are dealt with by the Council's Architect in consultation with this Department regarding slum clearance etc.

It will be noted that eight Closing/Demolition Orders were determined during the year and most of these installed bathrooms with the aid of a Standard Grant.

FACTORIES

1. Number of Visits made	43
2. Number of Notices issued	-
3. Prosecutions	-
4. Types of defect found and by whom reported.	1 (Overcrowding and Temperature)
5. Action taken to remedy defects	1 Factory Inspector)
6. Number of outworkers.	6

No formal action was necessary. The numbers of factories registered in the District are as follows:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Number with Mechanical Power</u>	<u>Number with no Mechanical Power</u>
Clenchwarton	2	-
Emneth	9	1
Marshland St. James	3	-
Outwell	3	-
Terrington St. Clement	7	-
Terrington St. John	3	-
Tilney All Saints	1	1
Tilney St. Lawrence	4	-
Upwell	6	2
Walpole St. Andrew	8	-
Walpole St. Peter	3	2
Walsoken,	5	-
West Walton	3	-
TOTALS	57	6

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

51 premises comprising retail shops, small offices, fuel storage depots are registered under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Routine visits were made during the year and where not complying with the Act, informal notices were served.

